

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-9, 14-39, 44, and 47-49 without prejudice, and amend claims 10-13, 40, 43, 45, 46, and 50-53, as indicated in the following list of pending claims.

PENDING CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the distal tip of the guide rail is expandable to snugly fit within the patient's cervical canal.

11. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 10, wherein the distal tip of the guide rail is split into bifurcated portions.

12. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 11, wherein the bifurcated portions of the distal tip are curved.

13. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 12, wherein the curved bifurcated portions of the distal tip have different radii of curvature.

14-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) An intravaginal tenaculum-like device for adjusting the position of a female patient's uterine cervix to facilitate intravaginal delivery of a therapeutic or diagnostic instrument, comprising:

a. an elongated guide rail which has a proximal portion with a proximal end configured to extend out of the patient during the procedure and to allow for the mounting of a medical instrument thereon and a distal portion with a distal tip configured for entry into the patient's cervical canal and which

[[is]] has a slidable collar thereon configured for intravaginal guidance of to intravaginally guide a medical instrument over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix; and

- b. a tissue grasping assembly comprising
 - i. a first elongated member which has a proximal section and a distal section with a distal end secured to a distal portion of the guide rail proximal to the atraumatic distal tip of the guide rail and
 - ii. a second elongated member which has a proximal section and a distal section with a tissue grasping element on the distal end and which is pivotally connected to the first elongated member at a pivot point thereon proximally spaced from the distal end of the first elongated member so that the tissue grasping element on the distal end of the second elongated member grasps moves so as to grasp the patient's uterine cervix at a location proximal to the distal end of the guide rail on the same side of the guide rail to which the distal end of the first elongated member is secured when the distal tip of the guide rail is disposed within the patient's cervical canal and the second elongated member is rotated about the pivot point to engage tissue.

41. (Original) The device of claim 40, further comprising a securing element configured to maintain the tissue grasping element in contact with tissue when the distal end of the guide rail is disposed within said cervical canal.

42. (Original) The device of claim 40, wherein the tissue grasping element has a sharp point.

43. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 40, wherein the guide rail is configured to receive a slideable coupling element attached to a medical device which is configured to be [[move]] moved in a longitudinal direction along the guide rail by the collar to guide the medical device over the guide rail.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 44, wherein the guide rail has threads on an exterior portion thereof at a location proximal to where the distal end of the first elongated member is secured to the guide rail and the collar has internal threads configured to operatively engage with the exterior threads and rotation of the collar around a longitudinal axis of the guide rail is effective to provide longitudinal movement of the collar along the guide rail.

46. (Currently Amended) An intravaginal device for delivery of a medical instrument to a female patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure, comprising:

- a. an elongated guide means which has a distal portion with a distal tip, which has a proximal portion with a free proximal end, which is configured to receive and guide a medical instrument and which has a collar configured to guide the medical instrument to the patient's uterine cervix, related tissue or near-by anatomical structure; and
- b. a tissue grasping means secured to the distal portion of the guide means configured to grasp the patient's uterine cervix[[[]]], related tissue or near-

by anatomical structure[[]]) to grasp the patient's uterine cervix at a location proximal to the distal tip of the guide means to facilitate delivery of the medical instrument over the guide rail to the patient's uterine cervix.

47-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim [[49]] 46, wherein the distal tip of the guide means is expandable to snugly fit within the patient's cervical canal.

51. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 50, wherein the expandable distal tip of the guide means is split into bifurcated portions.

52. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 51, wherein the bifurcated portions of the guide means are curved.

53. (Currently Amended) The intravaginal device of claim 52, wherein the curved bifurcated portions of the guide means have different radii of curvature.